

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 8 and 10-23 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Entry of Amendment

Applicants submit that the entry of the present amendment is proper since it only cancels rejected claims and since it *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance.

Allowable Claims

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claims 8 and 10-23 as being allowable.

Rejection under 35 USC 103

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Budelman (US Patent 6,244,331) in view of Shieh (US Patent 5,377, 745). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Since this claim has been canceled this rejection is rendered moot.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and since the application now contains only allowable claims, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse Reg. No. 27,295 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.


Application No. 09/930,990
Amendment dated February 15, 2007
After Final Office Action of December 6, 2006

Docket No.: 0941-1282PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 15, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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